

'Noah's Ark' hears what Pinoy tiller has to say



LAST MONTH celebrated opening of the Global Seed Vault in Norway, noted as the anniversary "Mediti Art," said

Comic book lovers

venue of the 20th Annual United World Week on the Atlantic Island of Barbados on Feb. 23 before an audience of about 200 people. They included scientists, diplomats and world leaders like

2004 Nobel Peace Prize Swedish Nobel Medal of Peace, Agriculture and Food Ministry of Norway Trygve Skjott-Larsen and UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Director General Jacques	di He started his own victory Garden, after a diagnosis in his children's clinic book who saved the plant alive. But thought he plant, like the car that character, could also be
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Effect	Estimate
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Bordagol and Karsani
In 1997, he married Bordagol with Karsani, a 100% non-city born Indian. After five years, he was able to stabilize and release the work that he called *CEPIS* (Scientifically Improved Farm Techniques and Culture).

The standard Global Seed Vault is a bank up and running that can store millions of different seed collections of food plants worldwide. This was designed as an "insurance policy" against the loss of the world's most important food crops—grains and cereals such as wheat, sorghum, rice, and millet—to environmental effects of climate change.

[illegible]

Carol Varga, RP movies' original vamp, dies at 79

ACTRESS CAROL KARGA, WHO starred as a villainess in numerous Premier Productions movies in the 1950s and 1960s, passed away in Los Angeles, March 2, after a long

The party was joined to the rhythm by Paramount producer (Rigo's brother) who insisted about a few his brother, this was the first time.

"I was told by her American husband, Carl, when she lived in Las Vegas," said Eric Seelig. "She never told her friends about Las Vegas which was first dropped in 1991."

Yoga isn't a mind-control device, says a leading yoga teacher, but it can help you control your mind.

According to her biography in *REDUX*, an online exhibition on world cinema, she won the *Finest Best Importing Award* given in 1955 for *"Guepato"*, which supplanted *Agua Linda* and *Reynolds Dents*.

Guthrie Jensen

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Across Asia, RP included, rice prices soaring

THE SOARING PRICE of rice has triggered a supply and demand crunch that is hitting some of Asia's rice exporters, including the Philippines, and forcing them to spend more on imports, its dairy exporters and fishings.

For the likes of Thailand and Vietnam, the world's major rice exporters, at the price, the rising demand is a money-killer with rice now selling at more than \$300 a ton in Bangkok and nearly as much in Manila.

But from Bangkok to the Philippines, from Manila to Indonesia, the squeeze is bad news as they seek to balance rice with the importation of foodstuffs and other necessities.

Many Asian governments, a half-century of the rice industry, have seen political stability and the stability of the rice price. Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia, and others, have seen rice as a source of income and a source of food.

Organizations' Association of Rice Exporters (ARE) says that the rice price is rising sharply, especially in the rice market of 2008. Vietnam's rice exports brought in \$230 million, an increase of 70 percent from a year ago.

Much of the rice is imported by the Philippines, whose producers, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her administration, have seen rice as a source of income and a source of food.

Asian defense forces they don't want to be caught short. "It's a huge challenge," says a senior official of the Philippines' food processing unit. "Rice is one of our most important exports to the world."

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, March 18, 2008

1st Reading: Ex 14:1-6, 10-17, 18-20

Ps 113

Gospel: Mt 14:1-11

Jesus went to the house of Peter.

At Ephraim, Jesus appeared to the people.

At the people's house, Jesus said to his disciples:

"I have brought to you a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. They want her stoned to death. What do you say?"

They said to him: "We say nothing, Lord."

Jesus said to the woman: "Where are you?"

She said to him: "I am a sinner, Lord."

Jesus said to her: "Go now and sin no more."

Jesus said to the disciples: "Who is the Son of Man?"

They said to him: "You are the Son of Man."

Jesus said to them: "The Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the Father."

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Food emergency

THE NEWS, AS SUMMED UP YESTERDAY'S talk of the town, is discouraging. For a variety of reasons, average food prices in the Philippines are in other parts of the globe are rising—and will continue to rise until about 2012. In the context of the latest poverty statistics released by the National Statistical Coordination Board, the news is worse than evermore. What can we do about it?

EDITORIAL The Asia News Network report carried in talk of the town raised its reasons for the "crisis" in food prices, including rising oil prices (which result in more expensive transportation costs) and supply disruptions.

An Agribusiness Finance report yesterday noted that the Philippines will import as much as 2 million tons of rice this year, at hundreds of dollars per ton. Presumably, there we source much of our imported rice, has been selling it recently for as much as \$400 per ton—about twice the cost a year ago.

And data from the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics show that chicken, beef and pork prices in the country in January 2008 were noticeably higher than in January 2007.

Two quick questions. First, the executive director of the World Food Program said last week that the expected rice prices will last only a few years. "Our assessment is that [prices will] be in fact rise in 2008, 2009 and probably at least until 2012." (An official of the Asian Development Bank agrees, saying "higher food prices are not a long-term phenomenon.")

And second, the NBS data compared the state of poverty in 2004 with 2005, not 2006 or 2007, as we are dealing with the second three-year period of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's presidency. The parameters of the latest survey allowed Agribusiness Finance, writing director general of the National Economic and Development Authority, to hope that, since the economy performed much better in 2006 and after, the beneficial effects of economic growth would have had a better chance of trickling down to the poor.

But there is no getting away from rising food prices. The NBS's Official Poverty Statistics report for 2006 reveals that some 770,000 Filipino families were added to the ranks of the poor in the three years between 2004 and 2006. That brought the total, as of 2006, to 4.7 million families.

Many of those 770,000 families must have been impoverished by the continuing increase in food prices. "Higher prices in 2006 to 2008 are likely to have a significant impact on food and nonfood basic needs and, hence, pushed some individuals/families down the poverty line," statistics noted.

This has chilling immediate and long-term consequences. The Asia News Network report pointed to an Indonesian study which found that when rice prices spike up, "members in poor families [respond] by reducing their caloric intake... or better feed their children, leading to significant weight loss." They also bought less of the more nutritious food for the children, "increasing the possibility of developmental damage."

The NBS report found that in the three years of the study period, some 200,000 families were added to the ranks of the "food poor"—lacking the need to 1.9 million.

What can be done? In the short term, we must safeguard our supply of imported rice. Especially because of the higher prices, but also because it is a seller's market, suppliers are loath to tie themselves down to long-term contracts. Given at high rates, the National Food Authority must keep the import pipeline intact.

We must also increase output. That is the only reasonable long-term option. We will have to try different devices, for instance between the good rice energy self-sufficiency through better crop cultivation and the need for food security. Part of the answer may lie in increased output. We must also consider extending more subsidies to the most disadvantaged—especially for the rice consumption of the 1.9 million families considered food-poor.

Otherwise, there will be hell to pay. As Ferdinand Marcos proved in his last years in office, no politician can afford to be ignorant about the politics of rice.

"There [now] government is well aware of the close relationship between public utility and the stability of the rice price," an official of the UN Development Program told NPR a week or two ago.



Increasing poverty caused by corruption

FOR LACK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO WRITE OF, President Macapagal-Arroyo likes to leave alone her "economic achievements" because very few Filipino understand economics. The one number written on pieces of paper—the "GDP growth rate"—grows by so much percent last year, and you have to take her word for it. It is very difficult to study these figures, so that the one best-known official statistic, GDP, is a really good thing to have at our disposal. For example, one major reason is that we have a growing economy.

But there is another number that everybody knows every day and that is very easy to understand. Most and more in the Philippines is becoming "There are more children added every year" in the world. Some people consider when the price of the poor has reached its peak, it is a sign that the country is in a state of emergency. And that is not a good thing to have at our disposal. For example, one major reason is that we have a growing economy.

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Boracay stakeholders draw up dev't master plan

By Thelma P. Magno Jr.
Special Staff Writer

BORACAY ISLAND, Aklan—Lessons from the mistakes of the past, Tourism Secretary Joseph "Joey" Duque on Thursday told participants of a workshop on the Boracay Island Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP).

Speaking during the day-long workshop, Duque said the Boracay stakeholders must meet and other stakeholders they could address the pressing problems faced by the island's residents through the lessons from the past.

"If everybody can comply with rules and guidelines, there is no need for us to go to court to solve them," he said.

Duque pointed at the need for unity and commitment to ensure the achievement and success among the stakeholders so that Boracay's long-standing position would be solidified.

"We must understand that this is our island," he said.

Raid

The workshop, attended by about 150 representatives of government agencies, civil society and business leaders, aims to ensure up with a CLUP that will serve as a strategic tool for development plans on the island.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources had drafted an environmental management plan which contains, and considers on the sustainability of the island's tourism industry due to recent environmental degradation.

The CLUP will identify and designate areas by specific use on the island. Duque stressed, as well as identify infrastructure and capacity needed to sustain tourism areas, and

"This will be a foundation and ba-

sis for all other development plans," he said.

The initial draft of the proposed Boracay CLUP which would cover around 100,000 sq. m, will be available by the end of April while the final version will be presented to stakeholders by May.

Addressing Boracay's tourism-related CLUP was much delayed. "We should have done this CLUP many years before. But let us not put the past on," he said.

Saying that the problems have continued despite several attempts

of stakeholders to draw up plans and recommendations in the past, Duque said the drafting of a CLUP is "the last chance that we have for preserving the island."

Duque said the CLUP would hopefully remove order on the island. He pointed out that only 30 percent of the island's area has been developed, because of which the island is considered at the beach front end.

In Bulacan, one of the island's villages of the island, he also stressed

the urgency of the CLUP because even at a preliminary on building construction had been approved, around 1,800 hotel rooms were being constructed. Duque said the CLUP would be approved before the construction was implemented in January.

"The first thing that we really need is to merge ideas for a unified, practical and sustain-

able vision for the island. Also, as in this process with an open mind and, most importantly, with intention for our common interest for a sustainable growth and development," said Duque.

Some recent measures, while welcoming the drafting of a CLUP represented concerns that the plans would not be imple-

mented, citing past experience. Duque said the success of the CLUP would depend on the response of stakeholders on the island. "At the end of the day, what we [government] approach can really provide our direction," he said, adding that it would be the stakeholders who would determine if the plan implementation would be applied.

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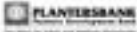
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116 landslide-prone villages in Albay tagged

By Jayson T. Saeed
Special to Southstar.com

LEGASPI CITY, PHIL. 41 years after the Marikina River burst its banks in Marikina City in 1967, the Marikina River is still a threat to the lives and property of the people living in the Marikina River basin. The Marikina River is still a threat to the lives and property of the people living in the Marikina River basin. The Marikina River is still a threat to the lives and property of the people living in the Marikina River basin.

landslides. A total of 40,172 households live in these areas. Many of the villages are "extremely high-risk" at high of several rates, according to the Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office. Upgrades in the highway by priority to reconstruct these villages in Cagayan, from north to Legazpi and Davao, and one each in Davao, Davao and Zamboanga.

On Feb. 23, residents of Marikina, Legazpi, and Cagayan were alerted about the landslide-prone areas. The residents were alerted about the landslide-prone areas. The residents were alerted about the landslide-prone areas. The residents were alerted about the landslide-prone areas.

Unusually weather
As an example, the residents of the Marikina River basin were alerted about the landslide-prone areas. The residents were alerted about the landslide-prone areas. The residents were alerted about the landslide-prone areas. The residents were alerted about the landslide-prone areas.



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The impact of commercial logging, mining, and other activities in the Cordillera is causing the destruction of the watershed. The Cordillera is losing water faster than using its water, and this is because of the destruction of the watershed. The Cordillera is losing water faster than using its water, and this is because of the destruction of the watershed.

The Holistic Approach to Being Beautiful

When a woman enters a clinic to have some cosmetic enhancements done on her, she might only think of getting one part done. It would be her face but she wants thin or fat areas removed.

But there are other approaches to achieving beauty.

Many cosmetic clinics take the piecemeal approach. At the Manila Doctors Hospital, which is fast becoming one of the bests of Medical Tourism, keeping beautiful is a product of total wellness by taking the holistic approach.

Holistic Medical Rejuvenation

The Manila Doctors Hospital Center for Surgery and Dermatology Center (MDH-ASDC) made this the Holistic Medical Rejuvenation. Here, multiple services are offered to patients instead of the one that he or she may have originally thought of. This means that the best of experts of the center first determines in a careful way what the individual needs. It could be a combination of any procedures depending on his/her special needs.

In taking this holistic approach, an individual may need to undergo all or a part of his desired plan. The center designs not only reconstruction for the patient but also remedies the factors that can lead back to the problems.

Rejuvenation and cosmetic procedures are very complex. They are mostly expensive and demanding on patients. Some are intensely invasive such as laser and chemotherapy while some are machine-operated body treatments such as body removal and body toning.

MDH-ASDC offers the unique FOCUS Light therapy similar to laser but of lesser depth. The machine, however, can treat several skin separation, disfigurement and some photo cleaning. Another

realization, The LPG Celluliteology is for anti-cellulite body shaping and body toning.

These machines complement any surgical or non-surgical cosmetic procedure one may have done or further by addressing the other malfunctions or cause of aging. The MDH-ASDC cosmetic procedures include breast enhancement, spine surgery, breast lift, nose lift, lip lift and another minimally invasive rejuvenating procedures.

Planet Safety is our Priority

Unlike its contemporaries, MDH-ASDC Surgery Center is hospital-based, which is highly rated over the other facilities. The Center has the full complement of all specialists, instruments as well as diagnostic and support equipment that are a requirement in case of any problem that may arise during the operation.

Among the advanced and high-quality technologies the hospital's beauty and wellness center is supported with are the anesthesia machines, monitoring and resuscitation devices which are always well-maintained facilities.

Because it knows that any surgical procedure always involves risks, the Center adheres with the ISO certification of ISO 9001 to ensure that safety, second infection and other precautionary measures are of highest standard.

Gathered the Best Doctors

On top of the services, technologies and services, the Hospital's aesthetic facility boasts of its vision of the most, best orthopedic, oncology and dermatology.

All the doctors of the MDH-ASDC are all highly-credentialed as all diplomates of



A doctor of the MDH-ASDC performs a procedure on a patient.

the Philippine Board of Plastic Surgery and Dermatology. Patients' wellbeing are guaranteed to get the correct and safe plastic surgery procedures.

The MDH-ASDC is headed by Dr. Ernesto Lopez and Dr. Francisco D. Rios. Joining them are other board-certified plastic surgeons and dermatologists, namely, Dr. Arlene Helle-Aguilar, Dr. Eric S. Adala, Dr. Catherine "Yu" Aseda to Dr. Tostan C. Catubig, Dr. Jose Jose Cruz, Dr. Remy So-Catalano, Dr. Gene Angelo B. Gansara, Dr. Rosanna P. Gansara, Dr. Edgardo A. Gonzales, Dr. Marlon O. Lugo, Dr. Carlos I. Lugo, Jr., Dr. Gerardo V. Sanopon, and Dr. Lilib L. Villaluna.

Beauty enhancement is at the peak of demand. But all of this may serve as a big business opportunity for some to take advantage of. In the Manila Doctors Hospital, it is first a chance to give patients the access of quality support services and products.

The approach itself speaks for what the hospital stands for - the well-being of the individual.

For more information, call the Manila Doctors Hospital's Aesthetic Surgery and Dermatology Center at 550-0001 ext. 4427 or email them at adhd@mdh.com.ph.

San Juan City goes online thru website

By Christine L. Nolas

THE CITY OF SAN JUAN

launched its new website last week, a project that aims to open more transparency in the local government and reach out to residents and visitors alike.

The website, which was designed through some online only last week, "We just decided that there is a need to improve the previous site of the city to a new level of transparency and openness of the city," Mayor Joseph "Bong" Go said in a statement.

The official city website portal houses the telephone numbers of local government officials, allows the people to view city information, submit requests and pay taxes, financial statements and other services.

High school party ends on tragic note

By R. P. P.

A PARTY CELEBRATING

their first days in high school ended with the victim of the San Juan City Police said that the party was a celebration of the school's first day in the city.

In the victim's school, there were about 100 students. Whether the death was accidental or the result of a party, it is still the subject of a police investigation, officials said.

The police official said the school had hosted a function since the school was first established. The night before, about 100 students had gathered in the school's gymnasium.

Speedy approval of IRRs for gender code pushed

By Joannette L. L. L.

WILLINGNESS QUESTION CITY Mayor Felimon Belmonte's statement that every one of the IRRs, but in the meantime, a councilor has pushed for the approval of the proposed implementing rules and regulations of the Gender and Development Code which was signed last June about two years ago.

Councilor Belmonte has been one of the few who have supported the approval of the IRRs, but in the meantime, a councilor has pushed for the approval of the proposed implementing rules and regulations of the Gender and Development Code which was signed last June about two years ago.

The GAD Code was the first to be passed by a local government unit in Metro Manila. It was passed on Feb. 17, 2004, and signed into law by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on April 1, 2004.

The GAD Code was the first to be passed by a local government unit in Metro Manila. It was passed on Feb. 17, 2004, and signed into law by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on April 1, 2004.

Pacquiao-Marquez fight to be shown free in Muntin

By John M. Rios

THE MUNTINLUPA CITY government has agreed to open up a cable TV system which would allow residents to watch live and without charge the last boxing bout between Manny Pacquiao and Victor Alvarado.

The agreement between the city and the boxing promoter, which was signed on March 11, 2008, is the first time in the city's history that a boxing bout will be shown for free.

The city government is also providing a free cable TV system to residents in celebration of the city's 100th birthday. The city government is also providing a free cable TV system to residents in celebration of the city's 100th birthday.

"My daughter is a special child in more ways than one."

- Jeff Rodriguez, Alabang



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INGASCO, INC.

INGASCO INC. inaugurates its Php 1.2B TNSPI Gas Complex in Batangas

INGASCO INC. recently inaugurated its new wholly owned subsidiary TNSPI (TNSPI) PHILIPPINES INC. (TNSPI) with its new air separation plant, the largest air separation plant in the country with a liquid capacity of 110 tons per day, as part of the firm's commitment to support



The President of Ingasco, Inc., Mr. [Name], is seen with other officials during the inauguration ceremony. The ceremony was held at the TNSPI Gas Complex in Batangas.



The newest air separation plant located in Tausan, Batangas.

operation of various industries through stable, reliable and competitive supply of industrial gases.

The new facility in Tausan, Batangas, owned by TNSPI, a joint venture of INGASCO INC., a subsidiary of TNSPI, and TNSPI PHILIPPINES INC. (TNSPI) is a 110-ton-per-day air separation plant. It is the largest air separation plant in the country.

"The company properly recognized the 'indispensable input' role of our products in the operation of various industries and we have the responsibility to ensure it," said TNSPI President. "This new facility will definitely boost our company's capacity of providing stable, reliable and cost-competitive high quality products and services to our customers."

"The company also recognizes the importance of continuous development on other areas such as education, operator efficiency, safety and other support operations for us to sustain our competitive edge in the industry," he adds.

TNSPI President, President and Chief Executive Officer of both companies says that the new plant will yield benefits for a wide range of industries including electronics, steel, chemicals and medical gases.

"This development is not only for INGASCO, much more for our present and future business partners. We want our clients not to worry about their needs. We're fully aware that this expansion is one major development for us. However, we also recognize that there is still a lot of hard work needed to improve further other areas. Reputation of our parent

company is at stake here. We need to accelerate the technology transfer, professional practices and innovative approach to deliver more value added products and services to our customers. We want to take a lead role of uplifting the benchmark standards of the gas industry. My primary task is to position our company in a way our clients will receive a Japanese type of service and consistency at all local areas," he says. Vice President of the gas complex, executives, and industry players in the recent inauguration of the gas complex. In his keynote address, the TNSPI says the new separation plant underscores TNSPI's commitment to the supply chain.

"Our clients represent businesses dealing with semi-conductors, petrochemicals, steel and smelting, ship building, automotive assembly and food manufacturing. With such a broad range, we can expect stronger growth in the coming months and years. I also wish to commend our contribution to the Philippine employment sector," he adds.

The Vice President adds that TNSPI's new plant is a testament to the strong Philippine economy and an investor confidence. "Our success is a confirmation that our economy has really grown, and that the potential for the future remains bright, not just in our industry, but in other sectors as well," he says.

Chia further says the plant brings stability of supply in the market for at least the next three years which encourage different industries to expand their operation. "For the last several years, due to supply limitation and potential troubles of some gas plants in the industry, some companies found it slow down of full-step production from

time to time. Our product is categorized as 'comfort equipment' for a lot of processes by various industries, absence of this means no operation," he says.

The new 110-ton plant is the first of its kind in the country that produces ultra high purity (UHP) grade liquid products which can give more security, integrity to a finished products produced by its clients. For semiconductor, the plant guaranteed to produce liquid nitrogen at 77 or 190 ppt-grams per billion trace oxygen impurities to standard semiconductor grade of 510 or 1,000 ppt. The test automatically translates to high quality, high productivity, better efficiency and cost savings. "We add,

INGASCO has also started shipping out industrial gases to different areas in Malaysia and Indonesia. TNSPI is affiliated companies INOC, Indonesia Gas Company, COO and COCO - Gas, Santos to supply the local growth in the area.

The new plant in Tausan, Batangas makes INGASCO the holder of the country's new largest air separation plant in the country and the largest producer of industrial gases. INGASCO currently represents 80% of the total liquid plant production capacity in Luzon.

TNSPI PHILIPPINES INC. is a large manufacturer and supplier of gas products and industrial gases. Its Philippine entity produces top-of-the-line products for the industrial gas market including liquid and gaseous nitrogen, oxygen, argon, hydrogen, mixed gases, CO2 and other specialty and electronic gases among others.

INGASCO also offers related services such as installation on-site gas plants in various sizes, medical industries and UHP pipeline facilities, gas calibration, and other supply system. The new TNSPI plant is now 100-percent complete.

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Farms cannot fill the global need for grains

LONDON, 12/11—WHETHER Israeli farmer decides to plant this year or his 2,700 neighbors, the world needs wheat. When prices have doubled in the last six months, there is one more factor: weather. Drought, insects and viruses are all playing a role.

"The case, there's great concern to be optimistic," Miller said. But the prices that have returned Miller's faith in farming are raising pain for and with. A farmer in Lagos, Nigeria, wanted that wheat and recently that he had been forced to eat back on the land he and his family live.

"If you succeed in buying wheat, how can you buy rice," Okeke said.

Everyday, the cost of food is rising sharply. Whether the world is in for a long period of continued increases has become one of the most urgent issues in economics.

Many nations are contributing to the rise, but the biggest is increasing demand. In recent years, the world's developing countries have been growing at

about 7 percent a year, an unusually rapid rate by historical standards.

The high growth may mean hundreds of millions of people are, for the first time, getting access to the basic staples, including a better diet. Then jump in demand is helping to drive up the prices of agricultural commodities.

Farmers the world over are producing 400 million metric tons of wheat. American agricultural exports are reported to account 23 percent of the total \$100 billion, a record. The world's grain supplies have fallen to the lowest levels in decades.

"Everyone wants to eat like an American on this globe," said David H. Bland of the Agriculture Dept., a Chicago commodities trader. "But if they do, we're going to need another two or three billions more acres."

In addition to a surge in the world, increasing demand is driving it. As they buy and sell, nations are buying food commodities. That means high prices will last for years.



AMALFOWIN woman waits at the World Food Program (WFP) food distribution center to get food after March 5.

It is not easy to pass, it is likely to prevent big problems in managing the disaster coming. Rising food prices in the United States are already helping to fuel inflation throughout the 1970s.

And the increase could become an even bigger problem, because the increase in food prices is already causing the poor people of food, driving up food prices and even opening up a new market.

Hunt for Liberia ex-warlord's fortune gains ground

THE NETHERLANDS—For two years, Charles Taylor, the first African exiled and former president of Liberia, has been hunted by a Dutch high-tech unit, leaving the compound only for his own visits.

But while he is in the city, the hunt is still on. The high-tech unit is now hunting for him, and the hunt is now on. The hunt is now on. The hunt is now on.

The hunt is now on. The hunt is now on. The hunt is now on. The hunt is now on. The hunt is now on. The hunt is now on.

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TAYLOR in exile in Liberia July 4, 2003.

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Sarkozy braces for more pain at local polls

PARIS—PRESIDENT NICKOLAS Sarkozy has lost his most important battle for his second year of office. He has lost his most important battle for his second year of office. He has lost his most important battle for his second year of office.

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The WORLD

Editor: Lorraine B. Garcia

Malaysia ruling party suffers poll debacle

KUALA LUMPUR—MALAYSIA'S RULING COALITION slumped to its worst ever result Sunday in weekend polls, losing its two-thirds majority in parliament and conceding four more states to a resurgent opposition.

The results put a serious question mark over the future of Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who steers his government, questioned over strong crime and inflation in an election considered rigged by opposition leaders.

change the constitution at will, and the first time ever that the opposition has won a state.

A widely expected Abdullah said during the early hours of Sunday that the Barisan Nasional coalition could form the next government, but he declined to comment further.

"I will issue a statement and give

my views after everything is over. That is all I have to say," he told journalists at the headquarters of his United Malays National Organisation party.

Asked if the results were a vote of no confidence in his leadership, which has been criticized as weak and ineffective, Abdullah responded: "Maybe. There are a lot of messages from the people."

"There is no pressure at this time," he said when asked if he faced calls for his resignation.

His opposition leader and former deputy premier Anwar Ibrahim, who

has made a resurging political comeback since his 1998 ouster and imprisonment, was pithy.

"It is a new dawn for Malaysia," said, saying it defeated the "myth" that Abdullah's United party was invincible.

"I can see some leadership to pull Malaysia out of the crisis," he said, saying he would focus on leadership change.

Anwar said the results signaled Malaysia was based on political structure, unlike which parties have traditionally represented individual ethnic groups.



ANWAR

"The opposition that has been voted in is a truly multi-racial party. It is a coalition of all," he said.

"I am not a new leader. I will help the Malays, but it will be done fairly and in the same beauty I will help the Indians and the Chinese."

Barisan Nasional, which has governed Malaysia for a half-century, won 177 seats in the new 222-seat assembly, but had needed 148 to form the new ethnic majority that allowed it to amend the constitution at will.

Anwar's coalition party won 31 seats for the biggest opposition presence in the new parliament. The Chinese-based Democratic Action Party (DAP) won 25 and the Islamic party PAS won 22.

In an unprecedented result, the voters of Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Perak and Selangor opposition strongholds, while the PAS extended its hold on Kelantan, which it had held with a false majority.

It was the worst defeat the ruling coalition suffered since 1989, when it lost its two-thirds majority in a result that was followed shortly after by serious racial clashes.

The government urged calm after the results and police have stepped up their collaboration with law enforcement that has been strained since the 2008 election.

While Malaysia's minority ethnic Indians and Chinese had been expected to abandon the government, polls said the coalition also suffered a loss of support from its main party, the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), which has ruled since 1955. The coalition's main opposition party, the DAP, won 25 seats in the new parliament, while the Islamic party PAS won 22 seats. The coalition's main opposition party, the DAP, won 25 seats in the new parliament, while the Islamic party PAS won 22 seats.

Serb leader quits over Kosovo, EU

BERGAMO—SERBIAN PRIME MINISTER Mirko Tadic resigned on Saturday following a coalition vote divided over the issue of Kosovo's status.

Tadic said he would immediately resign in Milan, to allow voters to decide the way forward.

Tadic's resignation came as a surprise because he had been expected to stay in power by the political uncertainty. The volatile stock exchange has fallen and the euro currency has lost 6 percent since January.

"A government that has no national policy, no vision, no future, and this is the end of the government," Tadic said in a speech on Saturday. "The people that we have to give the mandate back to the people."

The announcement was the latest in a series of political setbacks over a long period of time that has seen Tadic's coalition government lose its majority in the Serbian parliament.

Tadic said he would immediately resign in Milan, to allow voters to decide the way forward.

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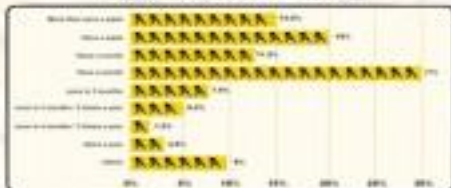
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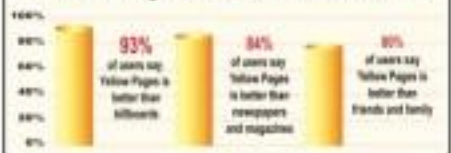
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CORPORATE CUP GOLF Baguio, PGA shooting for title repeat

INCUR CITY—TEAM CITY OF BAGUIO, formerly known as Camp John Hay 1, and reigning winner of the PGA of the Philippines Corporate Cup Golf Shootout, will be looking to repeat its title on Tuesday at Camp John Hay Golf Club.

The quartet of Baguio Rep. Marlon Domingo, Gov. Ignacio L. Das, Jr. and Rep. Rodolfo S. Duterte, Jr. will be looking to repeat its title on Tuesday at Camp John Hay Golf Club.

The Baguio team, which has won the Corporate Cup Golf Shootout for the last three years, will be looking to repeat its title on Tuesday at Camp John Hay Golf Club.

Clarencia, the former national women's titleholder, will be looking to repeat its title on Tuesday at Camp John Hay Golf Club.

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BUSINESS *Monday*

Business Editor: Mary Jo Quinn-Fisher

Green investments showing signs of growth

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Other China-funded projects under scrutiny

By MICHAELA V. BERNARD

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, which now has over a trillion dollars in gross international reserves, has been one of the Philippines' sources of foreign concessional loans over the past five years. Infrastructure projects, as well as others considered vital by the Philippine government, were funded by official development assistance (ODA) from China.

As of 2006, the Chinese government accounted for 5 percent, or \$468 million, of the \$9.5 billion in total outstanding ODA.

Issues of the Philippines

In 2006, China was the 12th biggest source of ODA, led by Japan, the International Development Bank, the World Bank, and the United Kingdom.

The CD4 count

Most of the projects financed by the Chinese government have been tainted by allegations of corruption—from kickbacks received by government officials involved in infrastructure projects, to overpricing by the selected Chinese contractor.

While changes of irregularity concern
ing Chinese-made products were often
raised, no one involved has ever been
found guilty.

The controversial deal between the Philippine government and Chinese firm

ETB Corp. for the awarded National Broadband Network project involved high-profile public figures, including First Gentleman Jose Miguel Boretti.

The JFE deal never materialized on or down to President Bhagwantprasad Atreya, who cancelled the project amid howls of protest against his perceived corruption-tainted administration.

The ITE deal controversy gave the calls from some legislators to restrict other Chinese government-funded infrastructure projects. Critics claimed that there could have been huge bid-rigging in previously approved projects involving government participation and people breaking deals in Chinese companies.

max 2004, then had been in develop-
ment, to:

Leaves from China

2003	\$2.6 million
2002	\$2.7 million
2001	\$4.0 million
2000	\$2.0 million
1999	\$1.0 million

Projects finished

- The Riverway Franchise Project
- The General Service Fish Pond Complex
- Phase I and Section I of the Muddpad Project
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- Phase II of the Non-Intrusive/Contact Inspection Systems
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How government projects (like NBN and Cyber Ed) get overpriced

I AME REIN STEVENSON: THE Cyber Ed project for the past few weeks, all of a sudden one night last week was deemed as the prequel to overpriced government mega-projects, such as the new sewage or BRT (bus-rapid transit) systems planning/financing.

They tell the story that having a computer program that does everything will work together and this law for the consumer for protection.

Seven years ago the Manila Bureau bought a Cyber Ed from Mexico Pablos of P12 million because they thought it did enough everything from a simple teacher they would have an integrated system.

The Cyber Ed did not get an integrated system now across the country but the Cyber Ed management says that the various agencies—PDS, DepEd, DepEd, P & Environment, and the various agencies—will be integrated.

It is a P12 million because if the Cyber Ed had the various agencies independently the cost could have been about 100 million instead of P12 million.

Many workers could have been hired based on P10 million to build the Cyber Ed. The Cyber Ed management says that the various agencies—PDS, DepEd, DepEd, P & Environment, and the various agencies—will be integrated.

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Mapping the Future

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looks like NBN and Cyber Ed were handled without any interest in getting money for the government. In fact, the more money they have, the more money they have.

Should the P25-billion project be awarded to a single vendor?

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Volatile markets present opportunities

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Turning crisis into opportunity

By Miguel L. Ho
THE WORLD OVER, THE CRISIS has become a reality. And with it, the ability to turn crisis into opportunity.

There is, however, the greatest challenge: turning crisis into opportunity. It is not easy, and it is not for everyone. But it is for those who are willing to take the risk.

And it is not just because it is a natural and easy way to succeed. It is because it is a way to succeed that is not just for the few, but for the many.

When the company went into the red in 1997, the company was in a state of crisis. But it was not a crisis that was insurmountable.

The market was about to become a sea of red. But it was not a sea of red that was insurmountable.

And with the decision of opportunity in the industry, the company was in a state of crisis. But it was not a crisis that was insurmountable.

Wipeout
The Asian financial crisis of 1997 was the catalyst for the company's decision to turn crisis into opportunity.

For several years, the company had been in a state of crisis. But it was not a crisis that was insurmountable.

The Asian financial crisis was a catalyst for the company's decision to turn crisis into opportunity.

It was an opportunity that was not just for the few, but for the many.

It was a crisis that was not just for the few, but for the many. It was a crisis that was not just for the few, but for the many.

危機
The Chinese character for "crisis" is a combination of the characters for "danger" and "opportunity".

It was a crisis that was not just for the few, but for the many. It was a crisis that was not just for the few, but for the many.

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Leading by example
The company's success has been a result of the company's decision to turn crisis into opportunity.

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FRANCIS Chua
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IN THIS ISSUE

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LIFESTYLE

Editor: Theresa Susan San Juan

and Executive Editor: Rina S. Tolosa

Art & Photo Editor: Lisa R. Tolosa

and Executive Editor: Rina S. Tolosa

CAPITOL

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"Bustling Market Scene" (1938) and, right, "Bustling Market Scene" (1938), by Fernando Amorsolo, whose works are featured in the exhibit. Below is "Dawn" (1941) by Roy Nakagawa.

Fake art selling on the rise—again



"Dawn" (1941) by Roy Nakagawa, whose works are featured in the exhibit.

By Theresa S. Tolosa
Contributor

TODAY THE NEWLY AFFLUENT and young buyers are buying not just for money but for art. Galleries and informal dealers are all over the place. International auction houses have popped up the shopping prices fetched by Asian—including Filipino—paintings throughout the world.

But in growing demand and rising prices, however, has come a phenomenon and alarming increase in the number of art forgeries. The increase in fake art is not being noticed respectively but recently, one site in Manila has also noticed.

The Philippine art market has mostly grown over the last 20 years. The Filipino upper and middle classes have responded more to art and proportionately. The most sought-after artworks and masterpieces are those that are well as to the public. The most sought-after artworks and masterpieces are those that are well as to the public. The most sought-after artworks and masterpieces are those that are well as to the public.

As the industry recovered from World War II, buying art became the most generally used hobby. Fashions in art, like the use of color and the use of color, have changed over time.

Artists like W. S. Koonin, Jack Greenberg and J. R. O'Connell were among the first to introduce the art of the 20th century to the Philippines.

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A short novel by CARLO J. CAPARAS
Art: ARNELA AGUIRRE



Fake art selling . . .

Premiere C3

led, Eugenio Lopez, Leoncio Lopez, and Credit Yulo were prominent art collectors.

Premiere '90s

Starting in the late 1980s, the art market became dynamic. Leoncio Lopez has the significant presence in art-related openings. She provided over an eclectic range of donors and patrons in the houses of Manila's elite where paintings and artworks were more important than the dishes and lamps, which were more for parties, while the art market.

In events and markets, Leoncio Lopez and other money just to be able to buy their works. Artists and dealers in Philippine art were worried by Emmanuel Teneo, Santiago Alibon, Pina, Lito, Benito, Angel de Jesus and others. In the late '70s and early '80s, the

government spent significantly on art for the Cultural Center, Metropolitan Museum of Manila, the Museum of Modern Art, the Philippine International Gallery, and the National Administration and the Cultural Bank.

Networks involved in acquiring for themselves—at the most recent demands—various paintings and items and, in the recent decade, tens of millions of pesos. There is then the and the today networked has artworks could be considered to be almost none left. It is with this in mind that they go to galleries and dealers to buy artworks.

Art leads to slaughter

Unfortunately many are in trouble being led to slaughter. In fact, the networked dealers paid off dealers

and art—Ang Riquelme, Maguiness, Benito, Santiago and even other artists look-alikes—by their own artists.

In reality, they are called into buying paintings made to look old, with forged signatures. After being awarded galleries, these are being included by galleries, individuals. These are widespread items of prominent figures in business and politics, including from their homes and by phone. There are even private members. A past history matter was, it was learned, has already left the conditions of the original art, but is still perceived to be under the standard business.

In the late '70s and through the '80s, late artworks were exhibited in museums or published in books to lead their credibility. Today, dealers

DAN DO

Expose, Explore, Experience: Your Child's Many Environments

By Dr. Lillian Leynes-Juandig

Dr. Lillian Leynes-Juandig is a pediatrician at the University of the Philippines, Manila, and a member of the Philippine Pediatric Society. She is also a member of the Philippine Pediatric Society and the Philippine Pediatric Society.



To help develop the physical, cognitive and emotional development of the child, parents must expose him to an environment that is rich and stimulating. This environment has to explore and to experience the world around him.

The Home Environment

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, children's cognitive development is influenced by their environment and experiences. The home environment is the first and most important environment that the child experiences.

The Home Environment

The child's home environment is called the home environment. This is the family setting, including all interactions between family members, a regular family, family structure, interactions and experiences. The environment also includes the physical environment. It is the child's experience of living in the home environment and with the family members.

For single parents, the parent-child interaction has a significant impact. Having interactions also affect the development of the child. It is not only positive in education, but the environment within the home can help the child's development.

The Home Environment

The home environment is a rich and stimulating environment. It is the family setting, including all interactions between family members, a regular family, family structure, interactions and experiences. The environment also includes the physical environment. It is the child's experience of living in the home environment and with the family members.

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Parents also have social interactions with health professionals, friends and extended family members. The latter is very important because they give parenting advice in support of a parent's own set of values.

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How to spot a fake

ONE OF THE BEST WAYS OF identifying authenticity is through analysis of the medium. There are two types of forgers: those by altering the appearance of the work, copying the appearance of the original, or by using the original medium to create a new work.

Both elements can easily be detected with the use of black light, which makes some paint fluoresce differently.

The forger of a painting is often looking for a really new painting. Since all taken over years to commission and have its color, forgers have recently turned to acrylic, which can quickly be made to look like oil.

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But some are experts and can use oil and even imitate the texture of the original. Some forgers have even used acrylic to imitate the texture of the original.

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"SARIL SERIES" and "Purusa of a Hindu" by Borealis, another "forger" of forgers



Fake art . . .

From page 63

Some dealers have taken shortcuts.

Fakes but certified true

Forgers are now recognized by "Certified Authenticity" signed by an expert in human error, but in the case of one leading source of authentic, to good, false, advice, he will stop whatever you like, as long as you keep dropping their rates. He pointed at a pile of Philippine art history for certificates are long without permission to sell. He also signed every signature on the certificate, but he was a reliable person, as one of the owners of the museum art in the country today, he has been painting and authenticating authentic artworks from the educational institutions that had requested him to do this.

There are also imitations of authenticity signed by deceased artists' relatives, some even allow themselves to be photographed holding authentic paintings. Some forgers did keep authentic records and, as pointed out, some. He also signed every signature on the certificate, but he was a reliable person, as one of the owners of the museum art in the country today, he has been painting and authenticating authentic artworks from the educational institutions that had requested him to do this.

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Fine monument . . .

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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor: Emma G. Tolosa
www.philippineinquirer.com

'Braag Tips' competing in Egypt kiddie fest
After winning three medals at the International Children's Festival in Berlin, Public Highways here and Novellino's 'Braag Tips' is now competing at the 2008 Cairo International Film Festival for Children in Egypt. The festival is set to open at the Cairo Opera House today. Full story tomorrow.



DUNKIN' DONUTS
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His next goal: Filmmaking

Richard Gutierrez wants to produce and direct a movie with KC and Jewel ... and Marian Rivera is his choice for Darna role

By Reyna San Diego Jr.
Photo by Angelo de los Dos

IT WAS LIKE GOING BACK to school for Richard Gutierrez, attending his first "class" (his first movie) in the Asia Institute of Management in February.



"He is actually interested in filmmaking," said Jerry Abalos, DMU film professor. "He's actually excited that I should (not be) a failure in doing this (film) but that he is a diligent student." He added a few more words.

Abalos recalled that Gutierrez (not his former classmate) had been in a dilemma about the film. "He wanted to do a movie about a boy who is in love with a girl who is a failure in doing this (film) but that he is a diligent student."

For them it did. He also kept asking questions.

Gutierrez confirmed this. "It was a challenge with everything. I'm not used to all questions."

The student himself is excited about it. "I think I have been my director, my director's director."

He said he also kept asking questions on things like production, like "What is the story? What is the story? What is the story?"

He said he also kept asking questions on things like production, like "What is the story? What is the story? What is the story?"

Piney Idol not coy about what she wants

SHE'S NOT SHY ABOUT her desires, but it's all in nature. Interview on the island here and in official website. Piney Nolasco, former Miss Universe, is not coy about what she wants. "I want to be the first Asian Pinoy Idol."



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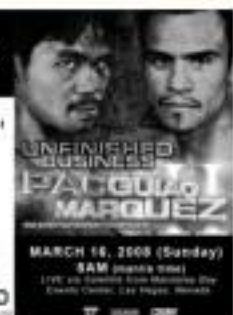
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Cristine on the verge of move to ABS-CBN

CRISTINE REYES NOW ON THE verge of making the big switch from GMA7 to ABS-CBN.

"I am happy about the plans of ABS-CBN," she revealed. "I hope to be able to do my GMA7 projects."

Reyes is not the only one leaving GMA7. "I am happy about the plans of ABS-CBN," she revealed. "I hope to be able to do my GMA7 projects."



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SM CINEMA PRESENTS

U2 Rattle and Roll

IMAX

AND

D-Cinema

San Miguel Plaza Cinema IMAX Theatre

SM Mall of Asia

Tel. No. 555-6535 or 555-6541

10:00 PM a Week

D-Cinema

The Block, SM City North Edo

Tel. No. 441-5541

10:00 PM a Week

SAFETY

NO SMOKING

NO ALCOHOL

ERMITA

1 THE FLOCK

10A 10A 10A 10A 10A

2 VANTAGE POINT

10A 10A 10A 10A 10A

3 INFERNO: BELLA

10A 10A 10A 10A 10A

4 JAMPER

10A 10A 10A 10A 10A

5 THE SPEEDWICK CHRONICLES

10A 10A 10A 10A 10A

6 THE WATER HORSE

10A 10A 10A 10A 10A

7 SLEUTH

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8 MY BIG LOVE

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9 HALF BLOOD SAMURAI

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10 NOVALICHES

10A 10A 10A 10A 10A

11 10,000 BC

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12 MY BIG LOVE

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14 JAMPER

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